



(775)

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

6:00 PM

**City of Huntington Beach
Civic Center Council Chambers
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach, CA 92648-2702**

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice-Chair Kaub called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Burkhart; Joe Carchio; Albert Gasparian; Bridget Kaub; Janis Mantini; Michelle Schuetz, Krista Sterud, Dick Thiel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Antonio Benitez; Nicolina Cuzzacrea (excused); Jay Kreitz (excused); Amy Kwon (excused); Roy Miller;

STAFF PRESENT: Janeen Laudenback; David Dominguez; Charlene Gomez

PRESENTATIONS: None

MINUTES:

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Burkart and seconded by Commissioner Mantini to approve the minutes of March 8, 2017 as amended by Commissioner Schuetz.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: Gasparian

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Gloria Alvarez from HB Preserve Our Past spoke regarding the Rogers site, referring to it as the "17th Street Park". Ms. Alvarez referred to agenda item L-1 and requests the name be restored to the "17th Street Park". Additionally, she asked that Commission add this topic to their next agenda.

Leslie Gilson spoke regarding benches in Gibbs park. She requests that no cement benches be placed in the park and would like to see cohesion between the parks. She

would also like to see the same for the trash bins and would like to know who she can speak with. Commission Carchio asked if it was only Gibbs Park, and Ms. Gilson replied that it was not.

Steve Engel identified himself as a stakeholder in the Huntington Central Park Committee and requested that Commission accept the priority list as presented in the agenda packet. Mr. Engel also commented on Irby Park, and an article he read in the OC Register regarding housing homeless individuals in a transfer station near Central Park. Volunteers and staff have worked hard at cleaning up the park and he would not like to see it revert back to the condition it was in previously.

Rocky Ciarelli addressed the recommendation of the Park Naming & Memorials Committee to name the Park, Tree, Landscape Yard after his father, Frank L. Ciarelli. Mr. Ciarelli said that after speaking with his family, they would like to respectfully decline the offer as they feel the Yard should be named after someone more connected to that aspect of the City. Mr. Ciarelli suggested other examples such as the City Gym and Pool or the Sports Complex due to their father's involvement in youth sports. He thanked Commission for their efforts.

Barbara Haynes from HB Preserve Our Past is in support of naming the Rodgers it as the "17th Street Park".

DIRECTOR/MANAGER ITEMS:

Laudenback gave an update on the Rodger Center by providing information on use of the Center. On February 1, 2016, Council directed staff to re-designate the Rodgers Center for community Use. Staff provided a plan for interim use at the April 4, 2016 Study Session. On April 18, 2016, Council directed staff and Commission to use the public process to determine uses for Rodgers and present a plan to Council. They also directed staff to continue programming in the interim. During the interim, the Center is being used for Post 133 Veterans meetings, Retired Senior Volunteer Program and Police Dept. meetings/training. Upcoming uses will include Local non-profit group meetings, after-school recreational programming; CERT; Police Activity League Wrestling Program and Community Services Summer Camps. There was a Community Open House held on May 6, 2017 to outline the plans and receive input from the community. The estimated Park Development costs are \$1,500,000 and the estimated building repairs are, first tier: \$290,000; and second tier: \$570,000.

Commissioner Carchio asked where the \$1.5 million will come from for repairs and refurbishing. Laudenback said that staff has not received direction yet as to what to do with the property, and once there is direction, staff will look at funding, grants and the Capital Improvement Project budget (CIP).

Commissioner Sterud asked about the value of the land. Dominguez responded that he didn't have the exact number, but would provide the information at the next meeting. She also asked if the \$1.5 million will be enough for the repairs and refurbishing. Dominguez said it's within the general range.

Commissioner Kaub said she would like more advanced notice regarding any community meetings on this topic. She also commented on the current programming saying that as a neighbor, it seems to be going well and is quiet.

Dominguez reported that letters of appointments to the Commission have gone out to the respective school districts.

Dominguez provided an updated on the General Plan. The last General Plan was in 1996. A new draft release is expected on May 22, 2017 for comments; the EIR meets on June 22; Planning study session is scheduled for July 22; Planning is scheduled to approve on August 15; and the plan will go to City Council for approval on September 18. The item will be published in the newspapers and on the City's website.

PUBLIC INPUT MEETING: None

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Huntington Central Park Concert Bandstand Naming – Dominguez provided background on the Bandstand saying that Council Member Brenden is recommending that the Bandstand be named in honor of longtime Community Band Director, Thomas Ridley. Mr. Ridley has been the volunteer Director of the Huntington Beach Concert Band for 30 years. Dominguez also noted a correction to the "Recommended Action", saying that the official name being recommended should be the "Thomas Ridley Huntington Central Park Concert Bandstand".

MOTION: Commissioner Carchio moved to make a recommendation to City Council to officially name the Huntington Central Park Bandstand the "Thomas Ridley Huntington Central Park Concert Bandstand." Commissioner Gasparian seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on whether the item should be directed to the Park Naming & Memorials Committee. Dominguez provided clarification on the naming procedures adding that the Commission has the ability to approve without sending to the Committee. After further discussion, all members of the CSC in attendance are in agreement; the item shall remain with the full Commission and not be directed to Committee. With all in favor, the motioned passed.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

Youth Sports Grant Committee – On behalf of Committee Chair Miller, Commissioner Thiel reported on the Youth Sports Grant program. Commissioner Thiel provided background on the grant program and criteria stating that the funds available for 2016/2017 are \$52,000. There was a total of \$163,000 in requests submitted by ten (10) organizations. Committee determined the most eligible and are recommending funds be allocated to six (6) organizations. Commissioner Thiel read over each request and explained the Committees decisions for altering the original amounts requested in order to fit within the \$52,000 budget for this program year.

MOTION: Commissioner Carchio moved to approve funding of \$52,000 for six (6) recipients of the Youth Sports Grants for FY 16/17 as recommended by the Youth Sports Grant Committee and as presented in Attachment G-2. Commissioner Mantini seconded the motion. Discussion began regarding school district approval and funding projects on school property. Commissioner Thiel responded that district approval is part of the criteria. Staff member Frankeney said that projects for school district properties are acceptable because the schools allow other youth organizations to use their fields. With no further discussion, the vote was taken, and the motion passed.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

Naming Recognition for Frank Ciarelli and Delbert Higgins – In light of the request made by Rocky Ciarelli during the public comments and the family's wishes, Recommended Action Item #2 will not be addressed. However, in Recommended Action Item #1, the Committee is recommending that the Beach Public Services Center be named in honor of Delbert "Bud" Higgins. Dominguez provided a PowerPoint presentation showing significance and location of the Beach Public Service Center. He stated that Mr. Higgins was the City's first lifeguard Chief and is credited with starting the Life Guard Division.

MOTION: 1) Commissioner Gasparian moved to approve and recommend to City Council to name the Beach Public Services Center as "The Delbert "Bud" Higgins Beach Public Services Center". Discussion ensued regarding Recommended Item #2 and a separation of the motions for both items. A second motion was made by Commissioner Carchio and seconded by Commissioner Schuetz to accept the Park Naming & Memorials Committee's recommendation to approve and recommend to City Council to name the Beach Public Services Center as "The Delbert "Bud" Higgins Beach Public Services Center". The motion passed.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

MOTION: 2) An amendment was made to take no action on Recommended Action Item #2 based on the request by the Ciarelli family. Commissioner Burkhart moved to accept the amendment with Commissioner Carchio seconding the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

Resolution 2004-90 – Dominguez said that the Park Naming & Memorials Committee is seeking Commission's approval to modify Resolution 2004-90. He explained that when reviewing the criteria for last park naming opportunity, inconsistencies in the language were noted. Dominguez reviewed the Committee's recommended updates. Discussion continued on the language to be updated and the reason for naming parks after schools. Commissioner Burkhart moved to accept and recommend the suggested modifications to City Council for approval as submitted by The Park Naming & Memorials Committee. Commission Schuetz seconded the motion, and the motion passed

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

Golden View Park Volleyball Courts – Dominguez said that over the years, the volleyball courts have deteriorated. Residents approached the Mayor and asked for them to be refurbished. Staff has reviewed the courts. A neighbor has offered to prepare the area. The City will purchase the proper sand. There was an original estimate of \$30,000, but some sand has become available from the Worthy Park project, therefore, the recommendation is to ask City Council for \$20,000 instead of the original \$30,000. The project would have been substantially more costly without the extra sand from Worthy Park and the partnership with the community.

Commissioner Burkhart asked if the costs were included in the current CIP. Dominguez said that there is a line item for non-specific park projects.

Commissioner Thiel asked if there are beach volleyball programs available through the Community Services Department. Dominguez replied that there are, and the Dept. has been approached regarding instructional classes at this park. Commissioner Thiel asked if it is currently being used. Dominguez responded no, saying it is basically dirt at this point.

Commissioner Schuetz asked for the costs breakdown. Dominguez said that \$10,000 is for sand, and \$10,000 for the demo and preparation.

Commissioner Thiel asked about the sand coming from Worthy Park. Dominguez said that it is play sand that is being replaced with a rubberized surfacing at the new Worthy Park tot lot.

Commissioner Carchio asked if money has already been set aside. Dominguez said yes. Commissioner Carchio asked if the volleyball courts are for neighborhood use only or will the Community Services Dept. be programming classes. Dominguez said that once the courts are usable again, should an issue of usage by classes versus the neighborhood arise, then regulations will be put in place. Until then, it will be provided on a first come, first serve basis. Discussion continued on probable situations and the processes that will take place, including any instructional classes would be required to through the Community Services recreational programs.

Commissioner Schuetz asked if any other parks have sand volleyball courts. Dominguez said that there are two other parks with sand volleyball courts.

Discussion ensued on the growth of volleyball as an activity and potential recreational programming.

MOTION: Commissioner Burkhart moved to approve funding in the amount of \$20,000.00 to make improvements to the volleyball courts and surrounding park area at Golden View Park. Commissioner Mantini seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

Central Park Capital Improvement Project Priority List – Laudenback gave an overview of the priority list as set by the Huntington Central Park Committee. 1) Renovation of asphalt concrete walkways at \$250,000; 2) Parking lot renovation at the Park Bench Café and Central Park East lot for \$250,000. Dominguez noted that this is not Park Fund money, but specifically set aside for infrastructure, and therefore, not taking away from any other park needs.

Commissioner Kaub, as Committee Chair, provided background on the tasks before the Committee and the processes they used in order to determine these recommendations.

Commissioner Carchio asked about the parking lot near Armstrong's Nursery. Dominguez confirmed that it has been completed, and that there are three lots altogether requiring attention.

MOTION: Commissioner Mantini moved to approve the infrastructure improvements as recommended by the Huntington Central park Committee. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burkhart. The motion passed.

Ayes: Burkhart, Carchio, Gasparian, Kaub; Mantini; Schuetz; Sterud; Thiel

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Benitez, Cuzzacrea, Kreitz, Kwon, Miller

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Murdy Park – Dominguez reported that there is money in the budget to design a multipurpose sports field at Murdy Park. The design is in final process and will be brought to Commission at their next meeting. In working through the public process, this will be brought forward as a public input item with notices mailed to the surrounding neighbors and posted in the paper. Because it's a change to the Master Plan, approval by Commission and City Council is required. If approved, a request for funding will be asked for in the next year's fiscal budget, however, the request at the next meeting will be for design only.

Huntington Central Park – Monarch Butterfly Conservation Grant – Staff applied for a Butterfly Conservation Grant, however, was not successful this time around. Commissioner Thiel asked if there are plans to add a line to the budget for this item. Dominguez said not at this time, however, Commission can agendaize it for a future meeting if there is interest. The reason staff applied for the grant is because it seemed to fit a specific need. Staff will continue to apply for grants for Central Park and other parks when appropriate.

Central Park Sports Complex Team Room – Dominguez reported that the tenant improvements are almost complete and the Team Room should be open in the next couple of weeks.

Worth Park Reconfiguration Project – Dominguez said that work is moving along well. Completion is anticipated for mid-July with a potential mid-August re-dedication.

Irby Park – Dominguez reported that City Council took action to approve the conceptual master plan as recommended by Commission at their April 3, 2017 meeting. Staff is requesting funding for the first phase in the 2017/18 CIP budget.

Bartlett Park – Dominguez said that to date, grant funds have been used for the improvements at Bartlett Park. However, additional improvements are needed and continuing. Chain link access gates have been replaced with lodge pole gates to match the new fencing. Landscaping around the Newland Barn parking lot and the Yorktown frontage are needed. Staff is awaiting review of the tot lot plan by the Orange County Flood Control District since a portion of the intended location is in a flowage easement area. Although the City owns the property, the County has an easement on it, and therefore, the City is required to obtain County approval. Once the plan is complete, it will be brought to Commission for approval.

Commissioner Carchio asked about the Murdy Park multi-purpose field, asking what kind of fields will be included. Dominguez said it will be used for various sports such as field hockey, soccer and flag football. Commissioner Carchio also commended staff on the Worthy Park project.

Commissioner Thiel asked about the Shipley parking lot. Dominguez said that there is a concept design and the Huntington Central Park Committee is reviewing the project. The hope is to be able to bring it to Commission at the July meeting.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

Correspondence received from Gloria Alvarez regarding the Rodgers Center site.

COMMISSION BUSINESS:

An update from the Huntington Central Park was previously reported under Administrative Items.

An update on the Youth Sports Grant was previously reported under Administrative Items. Checks will be presented at the June 19, 2017 City Council meeting.

Commissioner Thiel asked about the status of the vegetation overgrowth and homeless encampments in Central Park. Laudenback addressed the question, stating that the Community Services Department has been working closely with Public Works and the Police Department to take down the overgrowth and encampments. Kaub reported that the Huntington Central Park Committee stakeholders will be reporting things that they see that need attention in order to maintain the park.

COMMISSION AND STAFF COMMENTS:

Commissioner Burkhart's said that he has been on the Commission for six years and has asked the Fountain Valley School District to select a replacement representative when his term ends in June. This will be his last meeting and he thanked Commission and staff.

Commissioner Kaub said she would like to discuss the thought process and communication of the 17th St. Park and asked for direction on how Commission can discuss this item. Dominguez said the item would have to be agendaized. Kaub asked if Commissioners have an opinion or want to make a comment on the subject, can they email it to staff. Dominguez said that if a Commissioner would like to discuss a certain topic, they should follow the procedures approved last year by Commission on how to submit an item for the agenda. Dominguez said that staff can send out the procedures as a reminder on the process, however, the request would be addressed to the Chair with a copy to him. Commission Kaub asked that if any Commissioners have an opinion or a statement regarding the parkland on 17th Street, to please email it to David Dominguez. Commissioner Carchio asked if the intent is to separate the building and the park at the Rodgers Center site. Laudenback responded that the intent of the discussion for the next agenda is to name the park, not the building.

Dominguez commented on the park benches and the approved policy by Commission and City Council to use a system to install named benches. He explained that benches have been installed by developers, and as they have deteriorated, they have been replaced with concrete benches through the park bench donation program. There is no standard bench design at this time for benches other than those installed through park bench donation program. Dominguez provided a suggestion of Commission possibly referring the bench design to the Special Interest Committee.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO COMMISSION: None

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business, Vice-Chair Kaub adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Submitted by:

David C. Dominguez
Secretary
Community Services Commission

By: Charlene Gomez
Recording Secretary